

First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville
Confirmation 2018-2019
Statement of Faith Guidelines

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength and you should love your neighbor as yourself.”
(Deuteronomy 6:5)

What is a statement of faith?

A statement of faith is a personal declaration of what you believe and in whom you put your trust. Often statements of faith are recitations about what our church believes about God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, sin, salvation, the Bible, Sacraments and the Church. **BUT** our class has emphasized in particular our own relationship with Jesus and how we have and hope to live out these beliefs in the context of that relationship. Thus, while your statement should show that you have done some “head” work on these topics it should also reflect some “heart” work, sharing stories of the more personal side of your faith and your continuing journey with God.

What topics should your statement of faith include?

Your statement of faith is simply a reflection on your relationship with God. It should be an honest expression of your own faith, covering:

1. Your past relationship with God (where has it been, what influenced you to start this relationship, or why you perhaps never had a relationship with God before)
2. Your present relationship with God (where is it now, what does it look like, and how do you like to connect with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit – is it in the sacraments: communion/baptism? is it in prayer? is it in reading the Bible? is it in acts of discipleship? → all of these can be “jumping-off” points to help you think about your own personal faith and ways to express it in your faith statement)
3. Your future relationship with God (where do you want it to be in the future and how can you get there).

How much should I write?

2 pages (typed, 1 inch margins, 12-point font, double-spaced).
SMALL header (only name, date, and title needed on top left corner)

When is my statement of faith due?

The **FIRST DRAFT** of your statement must be turned in on or before **Sunday, February 17th**. It is best to e-mail your statement to Rev. Kara at ksmith-laubenstein@boxp.net and follow up to be sure she received it. If necessary, you can turn in a print copy to the church office. Rev. Kara will then read over them and give constructive feedback to each confirmand. Once you’ve received your feedback, you will be asked to e-mail Rev. Kara your **FINAL DRAFT on or before Sunday, March 3rd**, or again you may provide a print copy to the church office. Please bring another copy with you to the March 10th Confirmation Luncheon so that you are able to share your Statement of Faith with the Elders. **Remember, the Faith Statements must be typed!** Please talk to Rev. Kara (ksmith-laubenstein@boxp.net or 224-207-5095) about any questions or concerns.